

**Private Land / Public Wildlife Advisory Council
MEETING SUMMARY**

Monday, August 4, 2014, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Jorgenson's Inn and Suites, Helena, Montana

Council Members Present:

August 4: Joe Perry (Chairman), Dwayne Andrews, Chris King, Rod Bullis, Lisa Flowers, Denley Loge, Rich Stuker, Robert DesRosier, Kathy Hadley, Representative Tom Jacobson, Pat Gunderson (BLM), George Bain (USFS)

August 5: All of the above (except Robert DesRosier), Dan Fiehrer, Senator Jim Peterson, and Kevin Chappell (DNRC)

FWP Staff Present:

Jeff Hagener (Tuesday), Alan Charles, Mike Lewis and Hank Worsech (Tuesday)

Facilitation:

Mary Ellen Wolfe (Center for Natural Resources & Environmental Policy)

Monday, August 4, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 1: WELCOME AND TRAPLINE REPORTS

Joe Perry (Chair) opened the meeting and asked all present to introduce themselves and describe their interest in the PL/PW. Trapline reports for the month of July were shared and the following general themes emerged.

- The contract season for the Block Management Program (BMP) in Region 6 is done and things are moving in a positive direction. A successful BMP Appreciation Dinner was held in Region 2 and all present were appreciative.
- The Region 2 Citizens Advisory Committee met and expressed interest in a local role in management of overpopulation elk on private land. Sportsmen expressed strong sentiments against “Ranching for Wildlife.”
- Judge Howard (a past Council presenter) is dedicated to pursuing forfeiture where property can be confiscated when certain FWP violations occur.
- In Region 7, the BLM does have a map of inaccessible BLM land that was developed several years ago.
- Many people do not know about HB454. If it were promoted more by FWP, there might be more interest in it.
- Some counties are interested in the Access Roads recommendation, and more detail about what is being requested is needed. Funding to support the effort is also essential for it to be carried out.
- The BLM supports the idea of counties taking the lead to identify county roads.

AGENDA ITEM 2: WORK SESSION—FINALIZE AND APPROVE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council reviewed, refined and finalized some of their Draft Recommendations using a consensus decision-making process. (See the attached PL/PW Draft Goals and Recommendations for details.)

AGENDA ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present to provide public comment.

Tuesday, August 05, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 1: WORK SESSION (CONTINUED)

The Council continued and completed their review, refinement and finalization of Draft Recommendations, focusing on the final recommendation to be considered: Recommendations for an amended “Home to Hunt License” statute. (Details are provided in the attached PL/PW Draft Goals and Recommendations.)

AGENDA ITEM 2: PROCESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND FINALIZATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Alan Charles described the process to be used to solicit public comment on the PL/PW Draft Goals and Recommendations.

- It will be a 30-day review beginning in mid-August and concluding in mid-September
- There may be two press releases: one at the start giving notice of the availability of the full report and requesting public comment, and a second release mid-way through the public comment period to remind and encourage people to participate.
- The PL/PW Draft Goals and Recommendations will be posted on the PL/PW web site with a link to a Survey Monkey, where direct Public Comment can be made.
- There will be an electronic mailing of the PL/PW Draft Goals and Recommendations to a wide, interested audience, including hunters, landowners, outfitters, and other groups such as MACO, Montana Stockgrowers, etc.
- Public comments can also be sent by email directly to a PL/PW email address, or hard-copy to FWP, ATTN: Alan Charles.
- Council members who receive may receive public comments independently should forward them to Alan Charles for inclusion in the summary of public comments.
- Upon conclusion of the Public Comment period and in advance of the October meeting, Council members will be sent the full survey results.
- The next Council meeting will be held on October 1-2, 2014 to review public comment and make modifications of the recommendations, as necessary and appropriate.

AGENDA ITEM 3: WHERE TO FROM HERE?

The following items were identified for future potential Council work efforts.

- A draft preliminary recommendation to encourage stronger penalties and higher prioritization of Fish and Game violations in Montana’s courts of limited jurisdiction.
- Draft recommendations to enhance the Block Management Program to improve it for all stakeholders.
- Additional discussion of the Devil’s Kitchen Working Group, including possible presentations by Cory Loecker, FWP biologist, and possibly participating landowner, hunters, and outfitters.
- The Hunting Heritage Partnership Program proposal.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present to provide public comment.

ALL MEETING FOLLOWUP ITEMS AND TASKS

- Alan will send a link to the License Committee's Recommendations to all Council members.
- A letter of PL/PW Council support for the License Committee's Recommendations will be drafted by Joe and circulated for Council review before it is submitted to the EQC.